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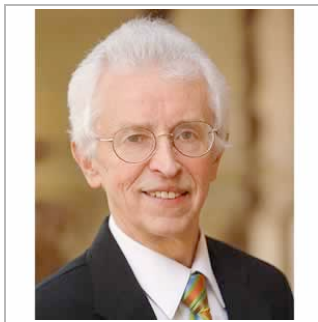
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Siegfried "Sig" Hecker wins Enrico Fermi Award

U.S. Energy Secretary Chu to present Presidential Award



Siegfried "Sig" Hecker, former Lab director and currently co-director of the Center for International Security and Cooperation, Stanford University

One of the nation's most prestigious science and technology prizes--the Enrico Fermi award--was given to Siegfried "Sig" Hecker, Lab director from 1986 to 1997 and a Los Alamos senior fellow until 2000.

This Presidential Award is one of the oldest given by the U.S. Government and carries an honorarium of \$375,000. It is administered on behalf of the White House by the U.S. Department of Energy.

DOE Secretary Steven Chu also named John Bannister Goodenough, professor at the Cockrell School of Engineering at the University of Texas at Austin, co-recipient. The honorarium will be shared equally by the two winners, who will also receive a gold medal.

"The 2009 Enrico Fermi Award will go to two scientists who have selflessly devoted themselves to our nation's energy and national security challenges," said Chu. "These two individuals are pioneers in innovative research and I want to thank them for their work and congratulate them on this award."

Chu will present the Fermi Award, named in memory of the Nobel Laureate, at a ceremony in Washington, D.C., at a date to be announced.

About Siegfried Hecker

Hecker, 65, directed the Laboratory from 1986 to 1997 and remained at Los Alamos as senior fellow until 2005. He currently is a research professor in the Department of Management Science and Engineering, a senior fellow at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies, and the co-director of the Center for International Security and Cooperation, all at Stanford University.

He received the Fermi award in recognition for his contributions to plutonium metallurgy, his broad scientific leadership, and for his energetic and continuing efforts to reduce the danger of nuclear weapons around the globe.

Hecker is credited with resolving a long-standing controversy involving the stability of certain structures (or phases) in plutonium alloys near equilibrium that arose from significant discrepancies between U.S. and former USSR research on plutonium metallurgy.

Hecker also contributed to the understanding of plutonium aging, which is of pivotal importance in assessing the reliability and performance of the U.S. nuclear weapons stockpile. In addition, Dr. Hecker was one of the principal architects of the science-based stockpile stewardship approach, still in use today to certify the safety and reliability of America's nuclear deterrent. During the latter part of his tenure at Los Alamos, Dr. Hecker was a pioneer in global nuclear nonproliferation and threat reduction, establishing collaborative research and mutual cooperation with the nuclear weapons laboratories in Russia and other former Soviet Republics.

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"Artificial" Brains, Electrical Grids, and Disease Modeling: Los Alamos Science Discoveries Unveiled September 15

Contact: Steven Sandoval, 505-665-9206, steves@lanl.gov, Tatjana K. Rosev, 505-667-7000, trosev@lanl.gov

LOS ALAMOS, New Mexico, September 8, 2009— Los Alamos National Laboratory scientists will share their discoveries with the public and their peers at the Laboratory's first LDRD (Laboratory-Directed Research and Development) Day September 15.

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